

- 4 -

Patent claims

1. An arrangement of appliances (2a, 2b, 2c, 2d) such as instruments or actuators which are associated with a technical process (1), and a unidirectional or bidirectional data interchange with a central point (4), such as a control console or display device, wherein
- 10 a) a transmitter/receiver (3) is arranged, which is designed for data interchange with the central point (4),
b) the transmitter/receiver (3) is also designed to call up data from the other appliances (2a, 2b, 2c, 2d) or to pass data to them, with the other appliances (2a, 2b, 2c, 2d) not having any transmitting or receiving device for direct communication with the central point (4).
- 20 2. The arrangement as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the transmitter/receiver (3) is associated with one of the appliances (2a, 2b, 2c, 2d).
- 25 3. The arrangement as claimed in claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the appliances (2a, 2b, 2c, 2d) are designed to interchange data with one another by means of the transmitter/receiver (3), and to carry out data preprocessing and/or diagnosis functions.
- 30 4. The arrangement as claimed in one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the appliances (2a, 2b, 2c, 2d) are designed to pass on their data as an analog signal or as a digital signal.
- 35 5. The arrangement as claimed in one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the transmitter/receiver (3) is designed to carry out analog/digital signal

- 5 -

conversion, and/or data preprocessing.